

CALFED OPERATIONS MEETING NOTES

Wednesday, June 24, 2009

1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Resources Building

Director's Conference Room, 11th Floor

Announcements

Jim White (DFG) will be retiring at the end of this month, his knowledge and professionalism will be greatly missed by many interagency staff. We wish him all the best in retirement!

SWRCB Activities (P. Fernandez)

Orders issued this week

Delta Wetlands to the Metropolitan Water District, 17,941 af (Crop idling)

River Garden Farms to the DWR 2009 DWB, 3,500 af (Groundwater substitution)

Pending Orders

Twelve transfers from various petitioners to the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) 2009 Drought Water Bank (DWB). See Table 1, attached. (Mostly groundwater substitution and some crop idling)

South Sutter Water District to the DWR 2009 DWB, 10,000 af
(Reservoir release from Camp Far West Reservoir and Camp Far West Diversion Dam to the Feather River)

Placer County Water Agency to San Diego County Water Authority, 20,000 af
(Reservoir release)

Placer County Water Agency/Sacramento Suburban Water District to the DWR 2009 DWB, 12,000 af (Groundwater substitution)

Pending Notices

City of Sacramento/Sacramento Suburban Water District to the DWR 2009 DWB, 6,000 af (Groundwater substitution)

Hearings

Cease and Desist Order (CDO) modification hearing on June 25, 2009. The hearing is regarding the Projects' petition to change the conditions of Order 2006-0006 issuing a CDO against the Projects for threatened violation of the 0.7 EC objective at

the interior southern Delta compliance locations. The order requires obviation of the threat of noncompliance by July 1, 2009.

Adoption of the 2009 Periodic Review Staff Report of the 2006 Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan) on July 7, 2009.

Curtailment Letters

On June 11, 2009, State Water Board issued curtailment letters to permittees and licensees to stop diverting water. The curtailment ends on Aug. 31, 2009. 72 permits and licenses were affected.

Table 1

Petitioner	Application No.	License No.	Transfer Amount (af)	Transfer Rate (cfs)	Transfer Type
RD 1004	27	3165	7,220	166	Groundwater substitution
RD 108	1589	3067	2,805	23	974 af (Crop shifting) 1,831 af (Groundwater substitution)
Garden Highway Mutual Water Company	1699	2033	4,000	39	Groundwater substitution
DL Goose Farms, LLC and Teichert Aggregates	3206	8267	4,783	20.3	Crop idling and crop shifting
Sacramento River Ranch, LLC	4901	9995	2,752.59	22	121.59 af (Crop idling) 2,631 af (Groundwater substitution)
E.D. Willey & Sons	7641A	6389A	2,445	17.8	Groundwater substitution
River Ranch Partnership	7641C	6389C	1,022	7.7	Groundwater substitution and crop idling
Greg Amaral Ltd., Pension Plan and Trust and Tule Basin Farms, LLC	10030	2840	3,765	21.05	Groundwater substitution

(Giusti Ranch)					
Pelger Mutual Water Company	12470B	8547B	1,750	25	Groundwater substitution
Scheidel & Osterli	15606	11001	2,653	14.54	Groundwater substitution
Nicoli Nicholas	15856A	7064A	2,148	11.77	Groundwater substitution
Maria John Nicholas Kelly Ranch, LLC	15856B	7064B	2,148	11.77	Groundwater substitution and crop idling

Fisheries Status

Salmon, Steelhead and Green Sturgeon (B. Oppenheim) – Winter-run losses at export pumps to date has been 1,461 juveniles, well under the “take” limit. Steelhead losses at pumps has been 1,362 juveniles, and the authorized “take” limit is 3,000. Spring-run losses are also under the take limit authorized (1% of surrogate releases). No green sturgeon have been taken at pumps so far this year. The numbers of salmon and steelhead on the San Joaquin River at this time of year remain low; no salmon have been reported since June 10 and only 1 juvenile steelhead has been reported at Mossdale.

Delta smelt – Nothing to report

Longfin smelt – Nothing to report.

Work Group Updates

.DAT – The results for Delta smelt 20 mm Survey #8 have been posted on DFG’s web site, they are similar to the distribution found in Survey #7; there are no more particle tracking runs for Delta smelt being conducted by DWR. USFWS’ concern level for June at the export facilities is 759 juveniles (cumulative), the current “take” of juveniles at export facilities is 675. The two largest salvage events in 2009 for Delta smelt have been on May 26 and, also, last weekend (June 19-21), when take markedly increased for a few days.

WOMT – The recent operational limits for the export facilities since the beginning of June have been (in chronological order): 1) 2200 cfs combined exports, 2) OMR flows not to be more negative than -1500 cfs, 3) OMR flows not to be more negative than -1800 cfs, 4) OMR flows not to be more negative than -3500 cfs, and 5) OMR flows not to be more negative than -5000 cfs. The latest part of FWS’ Delta smelt experiment at Clifton Court Forebay started last Friday and was finished yesterday; about 11,000 total marked smelt were released, 1000 right in front of the trash racks and 10,000 at the entrance to Clifton Court.

CVP/SWP Operations Updates

CVP – Trinity at 700 cfs, Keswick at 11,00 cfs now and going to 12,000 cfs this Friday, Folsom at 3,500 cfs now and going to 4,000 cfs tomorrow, Jones PP at 1,700 cfs, Goodwin at 1,250 cfs and the federal share of San Luis is 49 TAF.

SWP – Oroville at 3,000 cfs, Banks PP at 700 cfs and the State share of San Luis is 390 TAF.

Delta Criteria – Freeport as running about 10,000 cfs, recently there has been a significant increase in Sacramento River depletions. Vernalis is running at about 1,200 cfs; Delta outflow is about 5,300 cfs. Collinsville daily mean EC is greater than 2.64 (e.g. X2 salinity), but the 140day average EC at Collinsville is at 1.77. The Projects are increasing reservoir releases to meet Delta outflow of 7,100 cfs (Collinsville X2 requirement) in anticipation that the 14-day average EC at Collinsville will soon exceed 2.64. The Delta outflow requirement for July is monthly average of 5,000 cfs. OMR flows were -3269 cfs yesterday and the current limit is -5000 cfs 14-day average. The average daily temperature at Clifton Court Forebay was 23.6 F yesterday and will probably be about 24 F today based on this morning's readings.

Miscellaneous

The July CALFED Ops meetings will be cancelled, but the August meeting will be kept on the calendar (tentatively) for now pending stakeholder interest in having the meeting.